

2
CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled)

8.(New) An enclosing structure for enclosing and isolating a packaging machine from an outside environment comprising:

one or more enclosing panel means assembled together to define an inner environment within which the packaging machine is located, at least one juncture located adjacent an edge of the one or more enclosing panel means, at least one panel means being a movable wing, hinged to an upright of the enclosing structure, said panel means separating an inner environment of the enclosing structure which is substantially enclosed and isolated from an outer environment, said panel means formed by a first panel (3a) and a second panel (3b), coupled together and fastened in a facing relation on opposite sides of a frame (6), the first panel and the second panel located at a prefixed distance relative to each other to form an intermediate space (11) therebetween, a flow of purified air (F) being circulatable therethrough;

said first panel facing said inner environment and having at least one inner conveying channel for passing purified air by the frame situated near at least one edge of said first panel, said channel being in fluid communication with said inner environment, so that a flow of purified air passes from the intermediate space through the inner conveying channel toward the inner environment at the at least one edge;

said second panel facing said outer environment and having at least one outer conveying channel for passing purified air by the frame situated near the at least one edge of said second panel, said outer conveying channel being in fluid communication with said

outer environment, so that a flow of purified air passes from said intermediate space through said outer conveying channel toward the outer environment at the at least one edge, the purified air passing through the inner conveying channel and the outer conveying channel forming a fluid-dynamic sealing barrier at the edge of the panel means for preventing contaminants from entering the inner environment at the panel edge.

9.(New) The structure as claimed in claim 8 further comprising diverting baffle plates situated in said intermediate space for facilitating conveyance of said flow of purified air toward said inner and outer conveying channels.

10.(New) The structure as claimed in claim 8 wherein at least two adjacent panel means are each movable wings, hinged to uprights of the structure, the two wings having edges in a facing relation defining an intermediate area therebetween, a further channel being defined by the opposed edges of the wings in said intermediate area; said further channel being in fluid communication with the intermediate space of each of said wings, each of which has inner conveying channels and outer conveying channels which direct purified air into the further channel, a flow of purified air circulating through said further channel directed from said intermediate space to said outer environment; and a flow of purified air circulating through said further channel directed from said intermediate space to said inner isolated environment, such that no contaminants can pass through the intermediate area to contaminate the inner environment.

11.(New) The structure as claimed in claim 8 further comprising at least one inspection aperture made in a panel means, said aperture having isolating pneumatic means coupled thereto to form a fluid-dynamic barrier extending along an entire length of the aperture.

12.(New) The structure as claimed in claim 11 wherein said isolating pneumatic means include at least one first conduit and at least one second conduit, situated on opposite sides of said aperture, said first conduit having a series of nozzles for delivering compressed purified air directed towards said second conduit, said second conduit having openings for receiving the air coming from the nozzles of said first conduit to provide an air curtain therebetween.